

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 07007 241009Z

13-S
ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-04 EUR-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OIC-02 /062 W
----- 104168

O 240941Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4370
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 7007

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UN, SF, PFOR
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO SECRETARY FROM AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
STATES AUSTRALIA WILL VOTE FOR EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM UN

REF. A: CANBERRA 6946; B: STATE 230020 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: AUSTRALIAN DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CALLED IN EMBOFF EVENING
OF OCT 24 TO RECEIVE MESSAGE FROM FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE WITH
REQUEST IT BE PASSED SOONEST TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. MESSAGE
MAKES CLEAR AUSTRALIA WILL VOTE FOR EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA
IN SECURITY COUNCIL, WHETHER OR NOT AUSTRALIAN VOTE IS DECISIVE.
MESSAGE CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL, BUT FACT OF AUSTRALIAN DECISION
TO VOTE FOR EXPULSION CARRIED ON RADIO NEWS AS THIS TEL DRAFTED.
VOTING INSTRUCTIONS BEING SENT TO AUSTRALIAN UN DELE-
GATION LATER THIS EVENING. END SUMMARY

AUSTRALIAN DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (PIPER,
ASST SECRETARY, UN BRANCH) CALLED IN EMBOFF EVENING OF
OCT 24 AND GAVE US FOL MSG FOR SECRETARY
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IN REPLY TO HIS MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE OF

OCT 19 (REF B). MESSAGE MAKES CLEAR AUSTRALIA WILL SUPPORT RES TO EXPELL SOUTH AFRICA IN SECURITY COUNCIL, "WHETHER OR NOT AUSTRALIA'S VOTE WERE TO BE DECISIVE IN DETERMINING THE OUTCOME." MESSAGE CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL, BUT FACT OF AUSTRALIAN DECISION TO SUPPORT EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA WAS ON EVENING RADIO NEWS AS THIS TEL WAS PREPARED. TEXT OF WILLESEE MESSAGE AS FOLLOWS:

QTE THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF 19 OCTOBER 1974 DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS.

QTE AS YOU KNOW OUR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK HAVE BEEN IN VERY CLOSE CONSULTATION OVER THIS ISSUE. LIKE YOU WE ATTACH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE STANDING EFFICACY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND WE HAVE BELIEVED PROGRESS TOWARDS A HIGHER STANDING AND A GREATER EFFICACY THE MORE LIKELY THE MORE NEARLY UNIVERSAL THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS BECOMES.

QTE YET IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE WE NOW CONFRONT A SITUATION IN WHICH WE HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER THAT STANDING AND EFFICACY WILL NOT BE AS MUCH IMPAIRED - BY A DECISION TO ALLOW TO REMAIN AS A MEMBER A COUNTRY WHICH HAS CONSISTENTLY ACTED IN WAYS WHICH VIOLATE THE CHARTER, AND PARTICULAR RESOLUTIONS OF COMPETENT UNITED NATIONS ORGANS - AS ENHANCED, BY A DECISION IN FAVOUR OF CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP FOR WHAT MANY WILL SAY IS LITTLE MORE THAN UNIVERSALITY'S SAKE. I DO NOT PRETEND THIS DILEMMA HAS BEEN EASY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO RESOLVE. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF YOUR MESSAGE, HOWEVER, I WOULD NOW LIKE TO INFORM YOU OF THE POSITION WE PROPOSE TO ADOPT, IF, AS NOW SEEMS LIKELY, A RESOLUTION IS PUT FORWARD IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR THE EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA UNDER THE TERMS OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE CHARTER. IN THAT EVENT OUR POSITION WILL BE TO SUPPORT SUCH A RESOLUTION, WHETHER OR NOT AUSTRALIA'S VOTE WERE TO BE DECISIVE IN DETERMINING THE OUTCOME.

QTE THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION WILL, HOWEVER, SEEK TO STRESS THAT SUCH A DECISION, IF ADOPTED, MUST BE TREATED AS A SPECIAL AND EXCEPTIONAL ONE, WHICH MUST ON NO ACCOUNT
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BE INDISCRIMINATELY APPLIED TO COUNTRIES WHICH ATTRACT THE OPPOSITION OF A MAJORITY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, IN RESPECT OF PARTICULAR ACTS ALLEGED TO BE CONTRARY TO THE CHARTER. WE WELL APPRECIATE THE GRAVITY OF THE ACTION PROPOSED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FACT THAT IT MAY WELL CREATE SOME PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES FOR SOME MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. WE HAVE COME TO FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT IN THIS CASE THE MORAL CONSIDERATIONS AS WE PERCEIVE THEM MUST

BE DECISIVE. END QTE

COMMENT: PIPER SAID ALMOST IDENTICAL MESSAGE BEING SENT TO BRITISH FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY CALLAGHAN, IN REPLY TO HIS MESSAGE TO WILLESEE OF OCT 19. (BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION OFFICER ARRIVED AS EMBOFF LEFT DFA.) PIPER SAID THAT MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED BY WILLESEE HIMSELF (HE RETURNED FROM PERTH OCT 23) AND APPROVED BY PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM, REFLECTING CONSENSUS OF SENIOR MEMBERS OF CABINET. PIPER DREW ATTENTION IN PARTICULAR TO FINAL SENTENCE OF MESSAGE, THAT AUSTRALIAN POSITION BASED ON "MORAL CONSIDERATIONS AS WE PERCEIVE THEM..." HE ACCEPTED THAT THERE ARE OTHER MEMBERS OF UN WHO HAVE VIOLATED CHARTER AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, AND HE UNDERLINED FACT THAT GOA APPRECIATED THAT SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES MAY FLOW FROM EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA. VOTING INSTRUCTIONS BEING SENT TO AUSTRALIAN UN MISSION LATER THIS EVENING.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MEETING VOTING RECORDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE TO SECRETARY FROM AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER STATES AUSTRALIA WILL VOTE FOR EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM UN
TAGS: PFOR, SF, AS, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005